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HFI-35 (purged RDD 3/98)

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
4298 Elysian Fields Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70122
Telephone (504) 589-7166
Fax (504) 589-4657

May 22, 1997

*WARNING LETTER NO. 97-NOL-47*

*CERTIFIED MAIL*
*RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED*

Mr. Dexter J. Guillory
President/Owner
Riceland Crawfish, Inc.
101 S. East Street
Eunice, LA 70535

Dear Mr. Guillory:

During an inspection of your crawfish processing facility, Riceland Crawfish, Inc., Eunice, LA on 5/8/97, our investigator documented numerous objectionable insanitary conditions in your processing operation. This causes your product, peeled crawfish tail meat, to be adulterated within the meaning of Section 402(a)(4) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

Additionally, two samples of finished product crawfish tail meat were collected from your production days of 5/6/97 and 5/7/97. Analysis of those two samples revealed the presence of Salmonella sp. microorganisms. This causes your finished product to also be adulterated within the meaning of Section 402(a)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

Objectionable conditions noted included: (1) a worn frayed conveyor belt used to transport cooked crawfish; (2) encrusted residues on product contact equipment; (3) wooden boards used in ice storage bin; (4) live birds in the plant while the plant was not in operation; and (5) numerous improper employee practices where employees handled insanitary objects and then handled cooked product.

The above identification of violations is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of deficiencies at your facility. It is your responsibility to assure adherence with each requirement of the Good Manufacturing Practice Regulations.

You should take prompt action to correct these deviations. Failure to promptly correct these deviations may result in regulatory action without further notice. This may include seizure and/or injunction.

You should notify this office in writing, within 15 working days of receipt of this letter of the steps you have taken to correct the noted violations, including an explanation of each step being taken to prevent the recurrence of similar violations. If corrective action can not be completed

within 15 working days, state the reason for this delay, and the time within which the corrections will be completed.

Your response should be directed to Richard D. Debo, Compliance Officer, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 4298 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70122, telephone number (504) 589-7166. Should you have any questions concerning the contents of this letter, or if you desire a meeting with the agency staff, do not hesitate to contact Mr. Debo.

Sincerely,

James E. Gamet
District Director
New Orleans District

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